



UPDATE

OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Volume 8 • Number 04

July / August 2002

TIHPP Students/Mentors/Preceptors Recognized

Tennessee is quickly becoming known for its health care. Not only is Vanderbilt University recognized as one of the leading medical institutions in the nation, but also TennCare has been given the "thumbs-up" by the Bush administration. Following in these big footsteps is a program thought to be one of its kind in the United States – the Tennessee Interdisciplinary Health Policy Program (TIHPP).

TIHPP is driven by the goal of encouraging law, medical and pharmacy students to learn to work together as a team in improving health care in Tennessee. Developed and begun in 1999, TIHPP is a joint venture between the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities' (DMHDD) Office of Public Information, Office of the Medical Director and the University of Tennessee.

Within the program, students are indoctrinated into the world of sponsoring agencies such as Children's Services, and Correction; the Health Related Boards; the Office of the Attorney General; and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Here students focus on issues such as licensure, legislative health policy-making, youth violence, malpractice, narcotics abuse, anti-trust activities, civil rights, TennCare fraud investigations and child custody and abuse.

Participating in an annual recognition reception, students, mentors and preceptors gathered together in Nashville on Friday, July 12, 2002. All parties had the opportunity to discuss goals and learned insight along with sharing ideas for the future of Tennessee's health care system.

Deputy Press Secretary to Governor Sundquist, Sean Williams, addressed the TIHPP assembly of students, mentors and preceptors.



DMHDD Medical Director, Dr. Judy Regan, was honored for the role she played in the program's implementation and continuation.



NAMI/Nashville Presents 2002 Awards



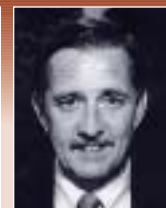
Curran



Cartwright



Reeves



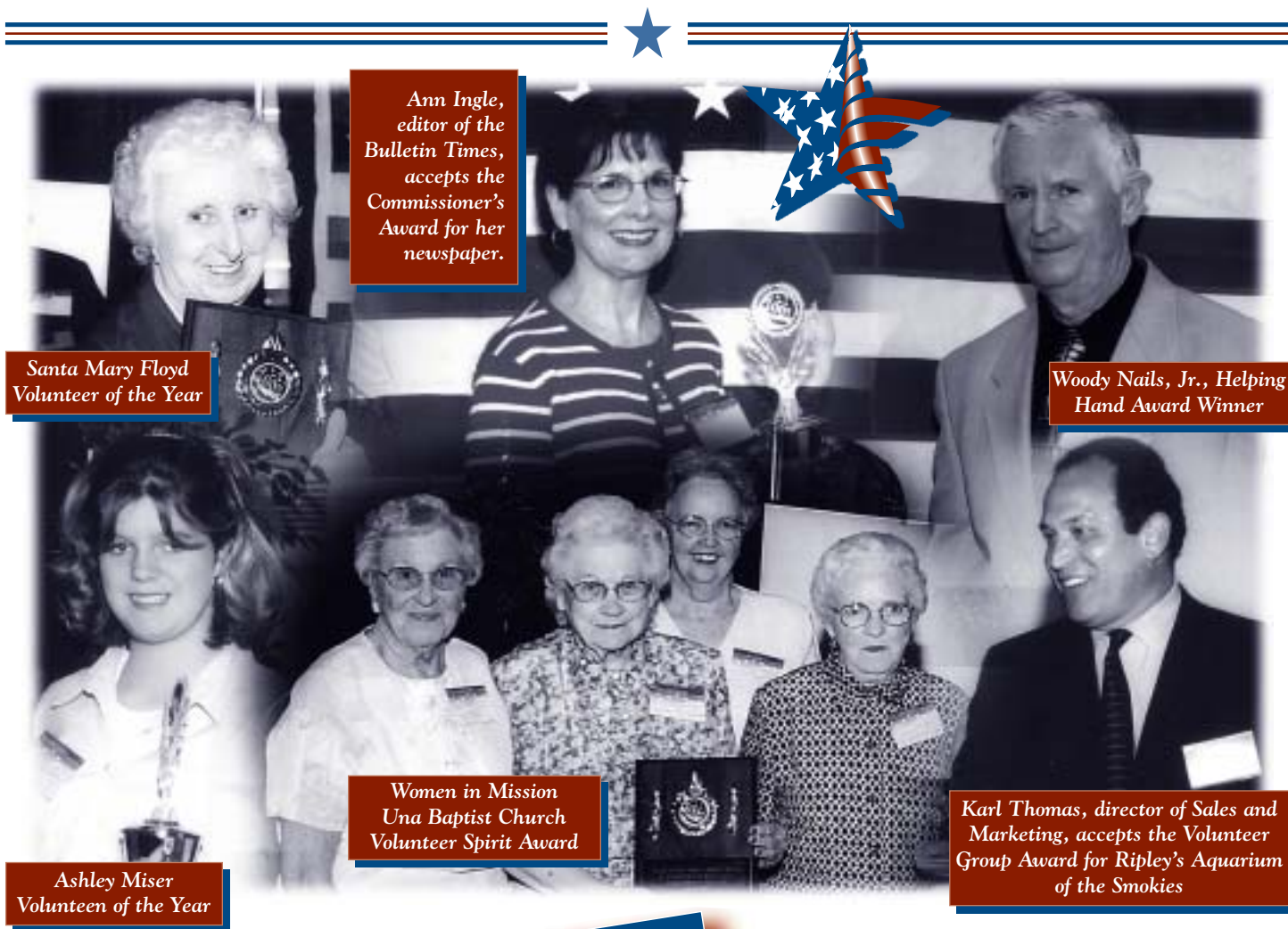
Fishburn

NAMI Nashville recently held its 5th Annual Ambassador of Hope Award Celebration at the Regal Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville honoring several in the mental health field as well as community leaders. The awards recipients included:

- John Shiffman, projects reporter for The Tennessean, Print Media Journalist of the Year.
- Carole Houser, medical reporter at WSMV, Channel 4 in Nashville, Broadcast Journalist of the Year.
- Metropolitan Nashville General Hospital and Eli Lilly and Company, Community Partners of the Year.
- Evelyn Yeargin, who for the last nine years has served as director of Advocacy for the Mental Health Cooperative, Advocate of the Year.
- Judge Mark Fishburn and Rick Curran, recognized as Advocates in Criminal Justice and Legal Matters. Both are integrally associated with the work of the Mental Health Court in Davidson Co.
- Judy Reeves, Centerstone's Consumer Affairs Representative, Consumer of the Year.
- Michael Cartwright, founder and executive director of Foundations Associates, Professional of the Year.



The reception recognized students participating in rotation through the Tennessee Interdisciplinary Health Policy Program.



*Ann Ingle,
editor of the
Bulletin Times,
accepts the
Commissioner's
Award for her
newspaper.*

*Santa Mary Floyd
Volunteer of the Year*

*Woody Nails, Jr., Helping
Hand Award Winner*

*Ashley Miser
Volunteer of the Year*

*Women in Mission
Una Baptist Church
Volunteer Spirit Award*

*Karl Thomas, director of Sales and
Marketing, accepts the Volunteer
Group Award for Ripley's Aquarium
of the Smokies*

13th Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon Honor ★ Courage Commitment

The DMHDD held its 13th Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on Friday, June 21, with the top 20 volunteers from throughout the state participating. The event's theme, "Honor, Courage and Commitment" was introduced with the presentation of colors by members of the Tennessee Army National Guard. From the 20 nominees, six were selected for special recognition.

Centerstone CEO George Spain was presented a certificate of appreciation for his graciousness in hosting the event at the Dede Wallace Center and allowing students from the Wallace Academy's Advanced Culinary Arts Class, under the direction of Certified Chef de Cuisine Len Mitchell, to provide the luncheon fare.



*Pictured (from left) are
Willie Jemison, assistant
chef/trainer; Jason
Anderson, sous chef;
Commissioner Elisabeth
Rukeyser; Certified Chef
de Cuisine Len Mitchell
and Sherrie Baker, sous
chef.*

ABOUT THE WINNERS

Volunteer of the Year—Santa Mary Floyd, Lakeshore Mental Health Institute.

For 11 years she has made learning special for the children of Riverbed School. She IS the reading program and every morning the kids beg for a hug and quality time with her. She gives the unconditional love that shapes children for a lifetime and beyond.

She teaches nutrition classes as well, often bringing food from home for tasting parties. "Grandma Sandy" also helps at car washes and other fundraisers for the children.

Volunteer of the Year—Ashley Miser, Greene Valley Developmental Center.

Since the first day at Greene Valley in June of 2000—when this 8th grader was so excited with her role that she wanted to spend the night—she has been an avid volunteer. She has assisted in the Habilitation area of campus where she reads, assists in arts and crafts and participates in various other activities. She has now volunteered almost 300 hours.

Volunteer Spirit Award The Women in Mission, Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute.

These women have been volunteering for over 40 years with contributions that are numerous and exceedingly heartfelt. They provide seasonal and holiday celebrations for all the service recipients; birthday parties including favors, food and entertaining; assistance with recreational activities on the units; and a willingness to assist with any other needs of the institute.

Volunteer Group of the Year—Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies, Greene Valley Developmental Center.

Management at the 115,000 square foot, 1.3 million-gallon aquarium in Gatlinburg has generously donated admissions to 400 service recipients and support staff from Greene Valley since April 2001. However, the recognition of their generosity is not solely monetary. The caring manner in which the individuals are treated by Ripley's staff is the greater value.

Helping Hand Award—Woodrow "Woody" Nails, Jr., Western Mental Health Institute.

Woody has become a valuable asset at the institute since the spring of 2001. Not only is he the "go-to" man when problems arise, but is also the man-behind-the-scenes in setting up and preparing for events and activities. His "green thumb" is evident throughout the landscaping and he is perpetually on call. Not only is he thought of as an exceptional volunteer, but a gentleman who takes pride in the quality of life of everyone at Western.

Commissioner's Award—Bulletin Times, Western Mental Health Institute.

In a world where news often enhances the stigma or discrimination that so many try to rectify, it is truly extraordinary to read stories that reflect the happy events of life. This Bolivar paper has continually served its community with information that shows the true light and life of those at Western MHI.



Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Authorization Number 339285, 10,000 copies, October 2001. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.10 per copy.



Luncheon Speaker—

Adelaide Vienneau, community relations director for the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville.



Mason/Pell Duo—Formed in the summer of 2000 it consists of Derek Pell (left), age 19, who plays the violin and Ian Mason, age 16, who plays the guitar. Pell attends Belmont University majoring in commercial music and Mason is a junior at Hillwood High School in Nashville. The duo donated their talents throughout the luncheon.

Color guard
from Tennessee
Army National
Guard from
Smyrna.



Volunteer Coordinators

From left—Sally Moore, Middle TN MHI; Marti Cook, Clover Bottom DC; Becky Bible, Greene Valley DC; Gayle Armstrong, Greene Valley DC; Commissioner Elisabeth Rukeyser; Marsha Shields, Lakeshore; Tina Nance, Moccasin Bend MHI; Susanne Denton, Western MHI; and Ellouise Warr, Memphis MHI.





State of Tennessee
Don Sundquist, Governor

Department of Mental Health and Developmental
Disabilities
3rd Floor, Cordell Hull Building
Nashville, TN 37243
615-532-6500
www.state.tn.us/mental

Elisabeth Rukeyser, Commissioner
Ben Dishman, Deputy Commissioner
Melanie Hampton, Asst. Commissioner
Mental Health Services
Richard Kellogg, Deputy Commissioner,
Mental Retardation Services
Mack Rhea, Director, Division of Administrative Services

Prepared and distributed by the
Office of Public Information & Education
(615) 532-6610 - FAX (615) 741-4557

Martha Robinson, Director
Patricia Fortner, MH Specialist, Editor
Jason Levkulich, Managing Editor
Linny Parker, Circulation

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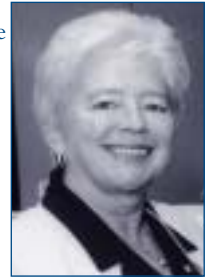
Published bi-monthly by the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. Periodicals Postage Paid at Nashville, Tennessee Postmaster: Send address changes to Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Public Information and Education, 11th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower, 710 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243

Happenings

- The Sunshine Drop-In Center in Crossville would like to welcome those who have been treated for depression, anxiety, panic attacks and other mental or brain disorders. The center is a division of Cumberland Mountain Mental Health. For more information call (931) 456-4727.
- The Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Services of the Tennessee Department of Health recognized Hilde Phipps, a leader in the alcohol and drug field in Knoxville since 1992, for her ongoing efforts and accomplishments. She was presented with the Outstanding Prevention Professional – East Tennessee Award at the Bureau's annual Summit on May 30, 2002 (This is the first year for this award, which honors AOD professionals in west, middle and east Tennessee). Phipps is a licensed alcohol/drug abuse counselor, a nationally certified addictions counselor, a certified HIV/AIDS instructor with the American Red Cross and a certified Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Instructor.
- The award-winning Regional Intervention Program (RIP), operated by Centerstone Community Mental Health Centers, has opened a facility at 126 Sylvis Street in Dickson. The early intervention program, which serves preschool-age children who are experiencing emotional and behavioral problems, is accepting referrals from families, educators and medical/social service providers. For more information, contact Janet Barrett, program manager, at (615) 441-6074.
- Cherokee Health Systems and four other non-profit service organizations were recently awarded a three-year federal

grant, totaling nearly \$600,000, to help provide outreach services in Hamblen, Grainger and Jefferson counties. Cherokee, the lead agency, invited the coalition to partner in addressing the physical, behavioral health services and social needs of an increasing Hispanic population. The other partners are Union-Grainger Primary Care, Central Services of Hamblen County, Carson-Newman College and Stepping Out Ministries.

- The Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee recently honored Melanie Hampton, assistant commissioner for the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD) with the Outstanding Mental Health Professional award. The award is annually given to a professional whose activities demonstrate a genuine commitment to improving the mental health status of consumers in our community.
- Safe and affordable housing was the hot topic at a recent seminar hosted by Gallatin's Sumner Regional Medical Center. Discussing the needs of those who suffer from mental illness and other disabilities, the attendees (numbering near 100) shared information and opinions on mental health services in rural Tennessee. The DMHDD's Marie Williams, director, Housing Planning and Development and Joyce Judge, executive director, NAMI Tennessee were among many presenters at the symposium.



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710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243